

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

NMFS Federal Fishing Violations Hotline
800-853-1964

NMFS Northeast Regional Office
978-281-9300

NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center
508-495-2000

NMFS Northeast Permits and Regulations Office
978-281-9370

NMFS Southeast Permits and Regulations Office
727-570-5326

NMFS Northeast Fisheries Information Line
(automated) 978-281-9278

NMFS Fax on Demand - Information Sheets
978-281-9278

NE Multispecies Regulated Mesh & Restricted GRAs Regulations
NE Multispecies Small Mesh Fishery Exemptions
NE Multispecies Large Mesh Fishery Exemptions
NE Multispecies Closed Area Regulations
Marine Mammal Closed Area Regulations
Sea Scallop & Restricted Gear Closed Area Regulations
NE Multispecies Charter/Party & Recreational Fishing Regulations
NE Atlantic Fisheries Organization Regulations
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass & Squid Quota Reports

NMFS MMPA/Sea Turtle/ESA Stranding Network
978-585-7149

NMFS Right Whale Sightings Advisory System
978-585-8473

New England Fishery Management Council
978-465-0492

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
843-571-4366

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
202-289-6400

State Agencies

New York (631) 444-0435
Pennsylvania (717) 705-7801
New Jersey (609) 292-9410
Maryland (800) 688-FINS
Delaware (302) 739-5295
Virginia (757) 247-2248
North Carolina (252) 726-7021



MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**300 S. New St.
Dover, DE 19904
302-674-2331
www.mafmc.org**

**2004 Proposed and Final Federal
Commercial and Recreational
Management Measures**

Photo by M Trollan



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

2004 Proposed (P) and Final (F) Federal Recreational Management Measures

NOTE: This table is a summary of proposed and final federal regulations and should be used only as a guide. Final federal regulations are or will be published in the Federal Register and when this occurs, those regulations will be the ones applicable for 2004. Fishermen should also contact state agencies to obtain a complete copy of current state regulations.

SPECIES	FISHING SEASON	HARVEST LIMIT*	RESEARCH SET-ASIDE	SIZE LIMIT	BAG LIMIT
(P) Summer Flounder (Fluke)	state specific	11.21 million pounds	174,750 pounds	state specific	state specific
(P) Scup	Jan. 1-Feb. 28 and Aug. 15-Nov. 30 state specific	3.99 million pounds	160,000 pounds	10" total length state specific	50 fish state specific
(P) Black Sea Bass	Jan. 1-Sept. 7 and Sept. 22-Nov. 30	4.01 million pounds	134,792 pounds	12" total length	25 fish
(P) Bluefish	January 1-December 31	21.35 million pounds	297,750 pounds	none	15 fish
(F) Atlantic Mackerel	January 1-December 31	15,000 metric tons	none	none	none

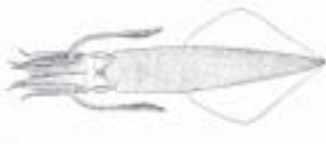
* Harvest limits not adjusted for research set-aside



BLUEFISH



SUMMER FLOUNDER



LOLIGO SQUID



TILEFISH



MACKEREL



SURFLAM



SPINY DOGFISH



BLACK SEA BASS



ILLEX SQUID



SCUP



BUTTERFISH



OCEAN QUAHOG



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

2004 Proposed (P) and Final (F) Federal Commercial Management Measures

NOTE: This table is a summary of proposed and final federal regulations and should be used only as a guide

SPECIES	FISHING YEAR	INITIAL QUOTA*	SIZE LIMIT	GEAR	RESEARCH SET-ASIDE	REMARKS
(F) Summer Flounder	January 1-December 31	16.92 million pounds	14"	5.5" minimum diamond mesh 6" minimum square mesh	174,750 pounds	State-by-state quotas
(F) Scup	January 1-December 31	12.47 million pounds	9"	4.5"/5.0" minimum diamond mesh Gear Restricted Areas: Northern GRA closed from Nov. 1-Dec. 31. Southern GRA closed from Jan. 1-March 15	160,000 pounds	TRIMESTER QUOTAS & TRIP LIMITS: Winter I: January-April - 15,000 pounds per trip reduced to 1,000 pounds when 80% of the quota is projected to be taken. Winter II: 1,500 pounds per trip. Net modifications allow vessels fishing with small mesh and having an escapement extension of 45 meshes of 5.5" square mesh behind the body of the net and ahead of the codend to fish in the GRAs provided vessels have an observer onboard.
(F) Black Sea Bass	January 1-December 31	3.92 million pounds	11"	4.5" minimum diamond mesh Pots/Traps: circular vents: 2-3/8" square vents: 2" rectangular vents: 1-3/8"x5-3/4"	134,792 pounds	State-by-state quotas
(P) Bluefish	January 1-December 31	10.5 million pounds	none	none	297,750 pounds	State-by-state quotas
(P) Spiny Dogfish	May 1-April 30	4.0 million pounds	none	none	none	QUOTA PERIODS & POSSESSION LIMITS: Quota Period I: May-Oct 2004 - 2,316,000 million pounds; possession limit of 1,500 pounds. Quota Period II: Nov 2004-April 2005 - 1,684,000 million pounds; possession limit of 1,500 pounds.
(F) Long-finned Squid (Loligo)	January 1-December 31	Max OY - 26,000 metric tons (mt) ABC, IOY, DAH, DAP - 17,000 mt (17,000 mt allocated to quarterly quotas)	none	1.875" minimum diamond mesh	127.6 mt	QUARTERLY QUOTAS: Quarter I: January-March - 5,649 mt (33.2%); Quarter II: April-June - 2,994 mt (17.6%) Quarter III: July-September - 2,941 mt (17.3%); Quarter IV: October-December - 5,416 mt (31.9%) *When 80% of the directed fishery in Quarters I-III is taken, vessels are restricted to a 2,500 pound trip limit for the remainder of the quarter. When 95% of the annual quota is taken, the directed fishery will be closed and a 2,500 pound trip limit will be in effect for the remainder of the fishing year.
(F) Short-finned Squid (Illex)	January 1-December 31	Max OY, ABC, IOY, DAH, DAP - 24,000 mt	none	none	none	The directed fishery for <i>Illex</i> will remain open until 95% of ABC is taken (22,800 mt). When this landing level is reached, the directed fishery will be closed and a 10,000 pound trip limit will be imposed for the remainder of the fishing year. Non-moratorium vessels may retain up to 10,000 pounds per trip when the directed fishery is open.
(F) Atlantic Mackerel	January 1-December 31	ABC - 347,000 mt IOY - 170,000 mt DAH - 170,000 mt(15,000 mt rec. harvest) DAP - 150,000 mt JVP - 5,000 mt TALFF - zero	none	none	none	
(F) Butterfish	January 1-December 31	Max OY - 16,000 mt ABC - 7,200 mt IOY - 5,900 mt DAH and DAP - 5,900 mt	none	none	none	
(F) Surfclams	January 1-December 31	3.40 million bushels	suspended	none	none	Individual Transferrable Quotas (ITQ)
(F) Ocean Quahog	January 1-December 31	5.0 million bushels	none	none	none	Individual Transferrable Quotas (ITQ) Maine Ocean Quahog Quota - 100,000 Maine bushels
(F) Tilefish	November 1-October 31	1.995 million pounds	none	none	none	5% of the total quota is allocated to incidental take and the remaining 95% of the adjusted quota is allocated as follows: Full-Time Tier 1 Permit-66%; Full-Time Tier 2 Permit-15%; Part-Time Permit-19%

* Quotas not adjusted for prior year overages and/or research set-aside